HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTIMBER 29TH, 1887.

GENERAL CAMERON'S ADMINIS-TRATION. .

hoped may go on unchecked.

ference is made to the Public Health Bill. measure carried this year. This Bill was. however, only read a third time that day. and His Excellency probably modestly fore- ment of such a regulation could not fail to myself any reason, when we can vote a sum like two opinions, and I think that those who are here to refer to this piece of legislation as completed though of course it was then in already crushed down with the exertitant vancing. The other reason why I second with ploa- would have a great responsibility resting upon tended to pass it through the Council. With rents they now have to pay would be sure the motion of my hon, friend is that in pass. there if they refrained from introducing meaable to amounce that nearly two miles of fresh quarters, for which they would have to colonies. Hongkong should certainly keep in sary, merely because they thought they were main drains had been added to those al- paystill more. The pressure would exert itself front as regards liberality, and to give a lesser unpopular. Perhaps it would be more congenial, ready existing; that the Victoria College upward, through the botter class of Chinese, to be parsimonious. With regard to the ex- did not make any fuss about those things and was nearing completion, and would be ready year; that though some legal difficulties had pean houses are even now occupied by the Majesty should be erected. I as well as several any trouble. That, however, would be taking a relarded the commencement of the new Central Market they had now been surmounted. and building operations would commence in October; and that the tunnel at Tytam being now open throughout, the new Waterworks are rapidly approaching completion. A market has been provided for Hungham at a cost of \$6,000. Forther representations have also been made to the Home Government on the accessity of some decision being arrived at on the Praya Extension question. This is a matter in which General Cameron has always displayed great interest, and he is anxious to see the work accomplished. The reference to the defences of the Colony is very meagre, but we gather that the forts now only await the arrival of the guns in lief may be afforded, it can only come gradu- some years ago, when Mr. Belilios first intro- to be done, and the extraordinary powers which not come and why the Garrison is not increased are points on which Genera CAMERON - perhaps wisely - says nothing. His Excellency possibly has furned as much as any of the residents at the delays that have taken place in this matter. The guns will come some day, we suppose, and the Garrison may be increased - when there is another war scare. The War Office is nothing if not prograstinating.

General Cameron's administration is nearing its close. Sir George des Voux being due here on the 5th proximo. When writing on his farewell speech to the Legislative Council. therefore, it may not be out of place to briefly refer to His Excellency as an Administrator. General CAMERON has, we feel confident, governed with a single eye to the good of the Colony. He has shown strict integrity and impartiality, great moderation, and a sincere. desire to meet the wishes of the residents so far as he considered was consistent with what he deemed his duty as head of the Government. As an administrator he has shown considerable capacity for governing after the fashion of a benevolent autocrat, and Hongkong might very easily he worse off than it has been under. the sway of Major-General Cameron. As a man and as an officer he has won the esteem and good will of the colony, and it will greatly regret to lose him. His brief administration, however, has served to once more illustrate the truth that Military Governors are not, and cannot be, in touch with a commercial community. Anxious as General Cameron unquestionably was to place himself in sympathy with the residents, his instincts and training led him-no doubt because he believed in its urgency-to press one of the most important measures ever introduced here through the Legislative Council against the votes of the unofficial members and in defiance of the wishes of the community. who desired that its provisions might have more extended consideration. military governor would have displayed more patience or consideration; few would have paid so much deference to public opinion; the moral to be drawn by those who have advocated the appointment of military governors is obvious. Of the Generals who have at various times acted as Governors of Hangkong, not one, we venture to say, has devoted such bonest industry, patient attention, and conscientious care to the duties of the post as General Cameron. Yet, as we have seen. His Excellency's tendency is, through his training, to autocracy tempered with forbestance. How few Generals would display equal moderation and equal desire to rule in accordance with the wishes of the governed!

SANITARY LEGISLATION IN HONGKONO.

The Public Health Bill was finally passed on Friday, the 23rd September, by a Government majority of one, the whole of the unofficial members voting against it. Even Mr. MacEwen, perhaps oils. the most ardent advocate in the colony of sanitary legislation, was compelled to vote "against it, in fact he led the opposition, feeling that the evil the Bill would do would be far greater than the good it might accomplish. That the Bill will ever come into force in its present shape we do not for a moment cannot fail to have great weight with scant attention the interests of the public usually receive at the bands of that State

sidents in this colony, Chinese and Euro-

cial position of the colony. It is gratifying to to make worse by enforcing connection with public matters, but by memoirs ances which have been in force for years. The put learn that this is sound, the revenue for the laws against overcrowding. Every person and biographies we do occasionally get a glimpse, lie asked by a very largely signed petition that eight months ending August being more is to have 300 cubic feet of space to sleep in, and everything that has come before the public the Bill should be postponed for some months. than a lake greater than the estimate, although, even supposing the house accom- shows that Her Majesty devotes the greatest deputation waited on your Excellency and the while the promiums on hand sales, es. modation were amply sufficient to afford this timated at \$45,000, already amount to space, many of the Chinese would probably (Applause). The pemp and directed which factory. A very large section of the community ships at \$45,000, already smount to \$81,717. Those who had faith in the elasticity of the revenue therefore, have, as General Cameron remarks, had their as man shall have at least 300 feet when there are of her people. It is well known that on hoped I would not be called upon to make confidence justified. The accessity for either is not 300 feet for him is absurd. But, say several occasions during her long reign she has, any remarks on the third reading of this Bill. a further loan or a Spirit Farm has now no the Government, we don't propose to enforce by her tack, her good sense, her long experience, but in consequence of the amendment which has existence, and if, as is anticipated, the Opium | this provision barshly or bastily; it will only and her kindness of heart averted difficulties | just been proposed I would like to state shortly Ordinance continues to work satisfactorily, be put in force in one district at a time, and which must have been serious and which might why we persist in this third reading and why we ought on the expiration of the present every allowance and consideration will be have been disastrons. (Applause). As the head have reason to be any rised at this amendment contract to receive a much larger annual rent made. Promises are all very well in their is only made and the fact that the same of the constitution to which we owe so much, it having been made. It is true that towards the

ment to carry out other works and at the only, for future administrators may not hold sum which has been asked for this purpose, and the public and the Bill as it was read a second same time reduce the house tax, which has themselves bound by the promises of their I am equally sure that the public in general time and as we propose to read it a third time new for some years been fixed at the high predecessors or may place a different conrate of 13 per cent. The Land Commission struction on the promises from that placed It gives me, therefore, much pleasure to pro- think that anybody who professes to wish to imamong other recommendations, we note, on them at the time. It is a rule of the law advise the reduction of this tax as soon as courts that in construing a statute the lobration and commemoration of Her Majesty's sent form. I know very well that Sanitary Bills practicable. The growth of the revenue and judge may not look outside the four corners Jubiles. (Applanse.) the large increase in the total tonnage of of the measure, or, to assist him in his interto the words of the Act, not to the promises

dinances, which are commercied, but no re- | his words must be treated as empty wind. In the great scarcity of houses the enforcecause great hardship and suffering. Men this, why lack of funds should keep us from ad- responsible for the public health of the colony regard to public works General Cameron was | turned out of their houses and have to seek | ing this vote we go side by side with our sister | sures which they thought were absolutely neces-

health in a climate like that of Hongkong. crowding clauses that have chiefly di-MACEWEN'S principal ground for moving my hon friend the Colonial Secretary; the rejection of the Bill. On this point the Government has shown itself absolutely impervious to reason. The Acting Attorney-General confessed that from the Government point of view the difference between the two parties was smill. The Government wanted 300 feet; the unofficial members 200, but the lutter would have accepted 250 feet as compromise, although rejuctantly. But Government, although it says the difference i small, would not give way. From an unofficial point of view the difference is considerable-it means a difference of twenty per

of which would fall on the tenants. Mr. Ackboyn savs :- " No one who has any wish to improve the sanitary condition of Hongkong cannow object to this Bill." This statement is in direct contradiction to the truth and was an insult to the unofficial members to whom it was addressed. Not that we suppose the hon, gentleman was conscious of his deviation from fact or that he meant to be insulting, but when he says that no one who has any wish to improve the sanitary condition of Hongkong can object to the Bill be must necessarily be taken to mean that any one who does oppose the Bill does not wish to improve the sanitary condition of the colony. Not one of the unofficial members would, we imagine, yield to Mr. Ackgovo in his desire to see improved sanitation, but as sensible and practical men they stop short as to when the Ordinance should come into when it is proposed to improve the Chiugge

cent, in the accommodation and a difference

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

off the face of the island.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 23rd September. There

were present :-His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General Cameron, C.B. Hon: J. Russell, C.M.G., Acting Chie

Hon. F. STEWART, Colonial Secretary. Hon. E.J. ACKROYD, Acting Attorney-General. Hon. A. LISTER, Colonial Treasurer. Hon. J. M. PRICE, Surveyor-General. Hon. H. G. THOMSETT. Harbour Muster. Hon. P. RYBIE.

Hon. Wong Shing. Hon. J. BELL-IRVING. Hon. C. P. CHATER.

Hon. A. P. MACEWEN. Mr. J. M. GUTIERREZ, Acting Clerk of Coun-

The minutes of the last meeting were read

THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION. ance with notice, that the Council vote the sum matter of reference state what those clauses | The question that the Bill be read a third Colony has a great future before it. of \$25,000 towards the celebration and commemo. were. Section 3 subsection 2 was passed by a time was therefore not put, nor was the Bill read ration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. In doing so he majority of three, an unofficial member voting a third time by the clerk, a fact which seemed believe. The unanimous protest of the un. said—Your Excellency and hon, gentlemen, I with the government. Section 3 subsection 11 to escape notice. official members, backed by the public petis rise to propose the motion which stands in my was passed by a Government majority of two. His Excellency then put the question that season. name on the orders of the day. After the On that occasion I was absent, otherwise I would the Bill do pass. minute which your Excellency framed re- probably have voted with my colleagues. On sec- Hon. P. Ryric-The unofficial members the year may be mentioned the extension on imthe Colonial Office, not withstanding the commending this vote to the favourable contion 4 Mr. Chater's amendment was lost by a ma- would like to record their votes against the pass- proved sanitary principles of the main sewers sideration of the Council it is hardly necessary jority of one and the Government's amendment ing of the Bill. that I should say anything about it. The was carried. Sections 5, 6, and subsection 4 of 18 His Exceptency—That was what I proposed. miles of these new main drains has been added motion speaks for itself; it needs no recom- were all passed by a Government majority of Then take the votes. Department. The arguments against the mendation from me. The object for which this one. Section 13 subsection 6 was passed by a . A division was then taken which resulted as sor last addressed you.

ING GOVERNOR was able to review a salis- mission affords instructive reading. Rents purso and give a portion of the public revenue of the Bill. factory amount of legislative work accom- in Hongkong are stated to be three times as towards a public purpose. And it is a public Hon P. RYRIE-Your Excellency. I rise to plished, and to point to steady progress much as in a London suburb, and attention purpose; for, apart altogether from Her Ma- second the amendment of my hon, friend. The made in the verious public works in course is called to the fact that many of the jesty's domestic virtues and personal worth, the Billitself is one of the most unpopular Bills ever of construction. The speech itself is business. It has received named explicit, unadorned by flowers of the commodation. This grievous of the toric, but succinctly summing up what of the Council of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estimated to see what takes of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese is the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estate of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese estate of the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese is the condemnation of all classes, the Chinese is the condemnation of all classes are inclusive. has been done, and clearly showing the finan. state of things the Government proposes place within the precincts of the royal palaces in and of the others many are embodied in Ordin

for the Opium Farm, which will still further way, but what we have to look to in legisla- every recognition in our power, and I am perfect waited on your I xcellency asking time to conaugment the revenue, and enable the Govern. tion is the strict letter of the law, and that ly sure this Council will not hesitate to vote the sider this Bill. The Bill as it was then before

will heartily endorse what we do. (Applause). pose that this Council do now yote the sum of prove the sanitary condition of Hongkong can

shipping entering the port, as shown in pretation, take evidence as to what was said motion which my hon friend the Colonial Secre- a great deal said about the loss and annoyance the Harbour Master's report for 1886, are in the Legislature at the time the law passed. tary has proposed, and I do so with satisfaction to which they would subject the population. two very convincing proofs of the continued The unofficial, members of the Legislative on two grounds. The first is that it is pleasing to But the reason for that was that the public prosperity of the Colony, which it is to be Council must follow the same rule, and look see that the revenues of the Colony are in such an | were not fully alive to the necessity of sanielastic condition that they can stand the abandon- tary regulations. They did not fully realise the ment of such a large sum as \$25,400. I may say in | dangers of insanitary conditions or believe in The Acring Government of the Government. When the Acting this connection that we have for some time been the efficacy of the measures proposed. We do not the legislative work of the session, which Attorney-General says, as he so often does in inclined to take a rather pessimistic view of our always like what is good for us, and therefore the includes the passage of nine important Or. effect, "We don't really mean it, you know," resources, but I hope now that we shall proceed people have not seen the necessity for sanitary to take rather an optimistic one, and that vari- legislation. They think it is unnecessary The Bill says every adult is to have 300 ous improvements, such as the filling up of the and verations, and I am not astonished at this which undoubtedly is the most momentous cubic feet of space whenever and in whatever Happy Valley, which was proposed some years Bill being unpopular. But I do not see why we district the Governor chouses to proclaim, sgo, as well as others, muy be proceeded with should not go on with it if we think it necessary. without delay. These works would be an im- About the necessity of improving the sanitary mense advantage to the colony, and I do not see | condition of Hongkong I think there can be no

until it was felt, as indeed it already is, by penditure of the sum itself I confess that I am allowed this Bill to pass or not just as the unthe European community. Many Euro- not at one with the opinion that a statue of Her official members thought right and did not take Chinese, and if this Bill becomes law still other gentlemen in the Colony, have a different ivery wrong view of our duties; and although more will be so occupied, and the Euro- way of looking at the matter. We desired that we can have no personal interest in the matter. peans will have to bid one against the any money collected or voted by Government we believed it was necessary to pass this Bill. and other whenever a bouse becomes vacant; should be devoted to some charitable insti- that we must take the trouble of doing so and in

per cent. on a large number of European Committee will keep this in view. I don't wish to improve the sanitary condition of Hong housesowned by one firm, and the same move- wish them to be extra-economical, but I think kong can now object to this Bill. For what is ment is going on in all directions. Consider- that so large a sum as \$15,000 for illuminations composed of? The first part treats of the ing that the population is daily increasing, and jollification, as the term is, might be formation of the Sanitary Board, and we have the outlook in this matter of house accom- perhaps curtailed somewhat and that some- sought to make that as liberal as bossible and modation is alarming, unless the Government thing might be spared to give, for instance, a lawe given the Board, as regards nuisances and take some energetic steps to open up more help to the Alice Memorial Hospital. This is an other matters, only such powers as are absolutely building sites. The point is one the Gor institution—and I think everybody will agree necessary for the sanitary requirements of the building siter. The point is one the Gov with me which is of immonse advantage to the Colony. The second part deals with the drains, ernment has under its consideration, and we Colony even now, and as it progresses, and with and against that no one can have the least believe they do not under-estimate the a Medical School in connection with it, we shall objection. The third part is only to be put inforce gravity of the situation. But whatever re- have made a great step in advance. I recollect, if there is an epidemic. That I hope will never have ally, and some years must necessarily pass duced his medical scholarships, we were told are therein given are only those absolutely rebefore the stringency of house accommoda. by the medical men here that it would be im- quisits if such a sad event should happen. tion begins to slacken. Can anything be possible to educate Chinese in the Colony so fourth part relates to buildings on land excavated that they would be able to pass for any degree out of the hillside; and as far as I remember sure against overcrowding in the height of a send them home for that purpose. Well, Mr. any amendment being proposed by any unofficial crisis like the present, when people are com- Bolilios's scholarships were not of such magnipelled by the irresistible force of circum- tude that such a thing could be entertained, and smended and finally incorporated in the Bill they

stances to crowd together? Moreover, less consequently those scholarships have been apthan 300 feet of space is not dangerous to plied in other directions. Returning to the Council. The only part to which there can be manner in which the Jubilee of Her Majesty is any objection is part 5, which relates to overwhere peoplekeep the doors and windows open though I am against it mysels, may please a bearly all the year round. It is the over- great many people here and will no doubt be an feet was the minimum. A proposal was made ornament to the colony, but I should like, for that we should make it 250, but that was revided the official and unofficial members my own part, to see the money spent otherwise. of Council, and which constituted Mr. With these words I beg to second the motion of The motion was then put and carried anani-

His Excellency—I am quite sure, hon, gentlemen, that Her Majesty, when these proceed- my hon, friend put in two, and there were only ings come to her notice, will be very much gratified at the liberal and handsome manner in which this Colony has come forward to celebrate her eration, and the number of changes which this Jubilce. So many loyal speeches have been made | Bill has undergone, I think it will surprise a from right and left, from every part of the community, that it would be perfectly impossible for me to add to those expressions. All I can say is I to the Bill. that I shall endeavour to the best of my ability -and I have already done so—to represent that Her Majesty has no more loyal and loving subjects than she has in this Colony of Hongkong time unaccessarily. Most of these objections or a people who are more determined to celebrate

possibly of 20 per cent. in rents, most right worthily Her Majesty's Jubilee. (Applause) A STREET IMPROVEMENT. The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the proceedings of the Finance Committee at a meeting held on the 19th September, and moved that the sum of \$1,500, recommended by the Committee, be voted for the purchase of a small corner of Inland lot 24 n Queen's Road West, immediately below the hill whereon stands the Civil Hospital. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

> Carried. THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL. This Bill, which was on the order for third reading, was recommitted, in order that certain

> verbal alterations might be made. A clause suspending the operation of the Ordinance until Her Majesty's pleasure shall be known was also added.

The Acring Attorney-General, in moving the clause, said no decision had been arrived at operation, but it was the wish of the unofficial members that there should be such a clause, although the Government had received no reason why the Ordinance should be suspended. He believed, however, he was, right in stating that 118 Excellency was ready to yield to the wish of the unofficial members.

The Bill having been reported with the above amendments the ACTING ATTURNEY-GENERAL moved that it be read a third time. The SURVEYOR-GENERAL seconded.

Hon. A. P. MACEWSN-Sir, I beg to move . as an amendment that this Bill be not read a third time. I may say I congratulate the Go. Hon. A. P. MacEwen The Harbour Master vernment on the introduction of the suspending clause, an amendment notice of which I sent Hon. Wong Shing in to the Government to-day. The Acting Hon. P. Ryrie Attorney-General has said that although the Government gave way no reason had been brought forward why they should do so. I would only say this is one of the most important terests. We have had various differences of third time. is only reasonable the Secretary of State should motion was carried. have the protest and reasons of the unofficial Members of Council before him before this Bill opinion that it was unnecessary to put the oripasses. I and my colleagues have on several co- ginal motion. casions protested against the clauses passed His Excellency-Very well, the original fellow-citizens so largely participating, is of a The Colonial Secretary moved, in accord against us by the official vote and I would as a motion is carried.

hearty than it has been elsewhere. For this ob- same way. But the most important sections, at the time; voting "no" instead of "aye," but parlier portion of next year. pean alike, is the great searcity of house ac. ject the community have subscribed very liberal- 76, &c, discussed at the last meeting were passed the hon, gentleman corrected the mistake. In his speech closing the Session of the commodation and the consequent high rents. by, and it is only natural that they should look by a Government majority of one. I think, sir, to this Council to assist them, and ask the that is sufficient reason why the unofficial Legislative Council, His Excellency the Act- On this point the report of the Land Com- Council to open the strings of the public members should vote against the third reading

to-day are very different measures, and I do not twenty-five thousand dollars towards the ce. have the slightest objection to the Bill in its pre-

are always very appopular, and in England there Hon. P. RYRIE-I, rise, sire to second the bas always been a great outery against them and

Only a few weeks ago rants were put up 20 tution. There is a great want of them in cur whatever unpopularity may for the present be this Colony, and I can only hope the connected with it. As I say, no one who has any member. I believe I am right in saving that as received the assent of all the members of thi crowding. Now the difference which divides us is not great. The Government stated that 300

I fused and the amendment was rejected. I have not been able to follow my hop, friend in his enumeration of the sections, because he has quoted from the old Bill; but if my memory serves me right the amendments the unofficial members put in were very few indeed. I think one or two others of which we received notice When all these facts are taken into considthose who have taken any interest in the matter that there should be any further opposition

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have very little to say All that I have to say has been said over an over again, and I do not wish to take up your have been already represented to the home Government by my predecessor and by my self when the two Bills, the Building Ordinance and the Public Health Ordinance, were one and the same amalgamated, and Her Majesty's Government, after seeing all these objections and receiving the draft Bill, telegraphed a general approval of this Bill; and I do not think therefore, that it is likely that that decision will be reversed, especially when this Bill has been so cut down as to meet all the reasonable objections as far as possible. But do not let any body enphose that we wanted this Bill to come into immediate operation. I would much rather it went Home and received the cordial approbation and confirmation of Her Majesty's Government. much rather, and I think all my colleagues would naturally fool the same way. And therefore, as regards my hon. friend the Attorney-General's amendment, that we should have this suspending clause. I for one am very glad. All the principles of annitation are so thoroughy understood all over the would that we cannot enlighten them at home, or give them any information, or succeed in showing that Hongkong is quite an exceptional place, different from any other part of the world. And so, gentlemen, let it be. It is far better than for me to recapitulate what has been said over and over ngain. Let the Bill go home now and be thoroughly considered by Her "ajesty's Government before it comes into operation. The amendment that the Bill be not read third time was then put, and a division taken

which resulted as follows :--The Surveyor-General
The Colonial Treasurer Hon. J. Bell-Irving The Acting Attornoy-General The Colonial Secretary The Acting Chief Justice

The amendment was consequently lost by a majority of one. His Excellency—Then the amendment is and acts as a wholesome deterrent to crime. Bills introduced into this colony for many lost. And now the question before the Council

The COLONIAL SECRETARY also expressed the

and accommodating spirit by the Chinese Foreign Collectorate, and my despatches on the subject, which are, confidentially, open to the perusal of honourable members, will, I trust, have proporly represented the commercial interests of the Community. The invaluable services of His Honour Act.

Complaints on the part of the merchants re-

articles of commerce have been met in a friendly

smuggling has been effectually stopped.

SPEECH.

The Session of 1886-1887 has been unusually

The Opium Ordinance, as far as can be seen

when the Council is to reassemble.

recognised by the public.

no Chief Justice Russell, who has been chiefly instrumental in bringing about so happy a settlement of this difficult and embarassing Opium question, have been fully recognized by Her Macestv's Government and the Government of Hougkong, and he well deserves the thanks of the whole community whose interests he has so

Mr. Seth has been most indefatigable and able in his management of the Opium Office, and to him is largely due the successful working of the

Among other Ordinances which have been passed this Session and which call for remarks.

1.-Legislative Council witnesses, and the the Loan. Commissioners Powers Ordinances. These are important additions to our Statute Book, as they enable the Legislative Council to compel the attendance of witnesses and to examine them on oath, whilst the "Commissioners Powers Ordinance" authorizes the Governor for the purpose of instituting and conducting any inquiry which may be necessary, to appoint Commissioners who will have all the powers of the Supreme Court for the purpose of enforcing the attendance of witnesses, compelling the production of doorments, and punishing for contempt.

2.—The Law concerning Joint Stock Companies has by Ordinance No. 30 of 1886 been amended and improved by the introduction into this Colony of the provisions of certain Imperial \mathbf{S} :aintes.

3.—The Law of Defamation and Libel has by Ordinance No. 5 of 1887 been modified and amended by introducing the provisions of the Imperial Act respecting Newspapers and Libels. 4.—The cause of order and peace in the Colony. has been further promoted by the passingi.-Of an Ordinance regulating the carriage

and possession of arms. ii .- Of an Ordinance enabling Government to take steps for the suppression of the Triad and other unlawful Societies, and iii.—Of an Ordinance for the more effectual prevention of clime by placing under police

supervision all criminals who are liberated from gaol before expiry of their sentence. The necessity of the second mentioned Ordinance was strongly urged on the Government by a Commission which was appointed to enquire into Secret Societies, and which proved to what an extent these unlawful Societies existed here. and the power which they were enabled to exermore ill-judged than to introduce a mea- in medicine, and that it would be necessary to these articles as amended were passed without cise,—a power which they used not only for their personal benefit, but often to the prejudica of the Colony by the help which they extended to

> 5.—Closely allied to these three Ordinances is that of No. 16 of 1887, approvering the Courts to award whipping for certain crimes—an Ordinance which it is hoped will act as a strong and | vereign's accession to the throne. effectual deterrent and will therefore not be often put into force.

6.—The Cattle Diseases, Slaughter House, and Markets Ordinance (No. 17 of 1887) is a useful and practical piece of legislation, the object of which is to secure the Colony from the introinction of cattle plague or other infectious diseases, the better regulation of our slaughter houses, and the cleanliness and good order of our markets.

7.—The Ordinances relating to the 1.—Post Office. 2.-Police Force, 3.—Juries and Licenses have been amended and consolidated by several

Ordinances passed this session. 8.—The work of the Law Revision Committee and the preparation of the revised edition of the Ordinances has been furthered by the passing of these Ordinances and by the Statute Law Rerision Ordinance No. 4 of 1887, which finally repeals and removes from our Statute Book no ess than 102 Ordinances; and parts of 5 others. 9.—The protection of adopted daughters and roung girls has been furthered by the passing

of Ordinance No. 9 of 1887. The necessity of such an Ordinance is clearly shown by the fact that there are at present no than is necessary to maintain a Club of this des- which Bombr. Black and Corpl. Gunnett each ess than 205 young girls under the protection of the Registrar-General, the most of whom, if not all, would have been brought up to a life of shame and immorality had it not been for the intervention of the authorities. It is hoped that the manner in which this Ordinance, which at first was viewed with a certain amount of apprehension on the part of the Chinese, has seen worked, has removed all those fears and proved to the Chinese residents that the only bject which the Government had in passing it was to put a stop to a shameful traffic and to protect those who could not protect themselves. The Annual Reports from the several Government Departments for the year 1886 have already placed the public in possession of the necessary nformation regarding them, and leave me but

ittle tosay excepting to testify to the zeal, ener capacity for work, and devotion to the public their subordinates, and which I have seldom seen respectively. equalled, certainly not surpassed, in any colony. The recommendations of the Police Commission have mostly been adopted or are being adopted as opportunity offers, and considering the great difficulties the Police labour under, the facilities offenders have of escape and the little assistance rendered by the Chinese public in the

detection of crime or apprehension of criminals, I think we may be well satisfied that good order is on the whole so well preserved. A better acquaintance with the Chinese language, which it is desired to encourage on the

part of the English Contingent, would much conduce to efficiency. The improvement in the discipline and man-

agement of the Gaol has been well maintained years past and it affects more or less all in- is the original motion, that this Bill be read a ping entering this port, as shown in the Har- already in use. Owing to the number of tennis for the confusion which has been pointed out is boar Master's report, speaks well for the growopinion between the official and unofficial members | The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that ing prosperity of the Colony, which is still furas representing public interests, and I think it | the amendment having been lost the original | therefore proposed that at least two fresh courts | him a new Crown Lease with a separate rent, to lation and extensive building and reclamation be murked out and the necessary netting, to pre- be fixed on equitable terms, and to be paid direct operations either in progress or being planned. | vent interference with those practising at cric-There is apparently every sign that this pros- ket, be obtained.

> perity, in which we are happy to see our Chinese substantial and lasting character, and that the In respect of Public Works and Improvements as satisfactory progress has been made as could be expected under the difficulties of the rainy

Among the more important undertakings of the town. Another instalment of nearly two to those previously existing since my predeces-

attention, however reductantly it may, be the community, and they have resolved that, if with the Government. Feetion 36 paragraph 2 one. Some amusement was caused by the Sur- advanced, and it is anticipated that the new the meeting then dispersed

given. One of the chief grievances of re. rather late, the arbetration here shall not be less was also passed by a majority of three in the veyor-General, who was engaged in conversation building will be ready for occupation during the DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, Unforceeon legal difficulties in clearing the Central Market of its tenants have led to some CLOSE OF THE SESSION -THE GOVERNOR'S delay in the commencement of the new Public

Market, but these difficulties having now been His Excellency read the following speech :surmounted, arrangements have been made to Honourable gentlemen of the Legislative Counbegin the new market buildings early next cil, the time has now arrived for closing this seamonth, when the rainy season will have practi. Hongkong, on the 24th September. There sion, and it will be for the consideration of His cally come to a close. Excellency the Governor, Sir G. W. Des Voux, The tunnel under the Tytam mountain range being now open throughout, the extension of

the public water supply is rapidly approaching prolonged for the purpose of disposing of that vexed and long-pending question the "Public Health Ordinance," and it is hoped you will be I have this day received the Secretary of State's permission, which I asked him to telewell repaid for your labours, when, in the course graph, to lay on the table the important report of time, the benefits conferred by this Bill have on land tenure submitted to Government by the the meeting: practically manifested themselves and been duly | Crown Lands Commission, which, as will be seen, has spared no pains in furnishing all the necessary information, and whose valuable suggesis fully realizing the anticipations of Govern-

ment in improving our friendly relations with tion China, whilst in no way-injuring the interests of Further representations have been made to expecting a telegram from England in rethe honest trader. The Ordinance has been the home Government on the necessity of some worked locally without, I believe, any friction or decision being arrived at on the Praya Exteninconveniences to our own people, and the Chi- sion question. nese Commissioner of Customs informs me that

detailed statement was made by me as recently as the 29th April, 1887, since which progress has garding increased duties imposed on certain been as satisfactory as the rains have permitted When the guns arrive, the forts under construction can be finished in a very short time.

The construction of a breakwater on Kellett's bank, which is recognized on all sides as essential for the defence of the Western entrance of the harbour, is now under consideration, and is only question of money. It is gratifying to find that the important work of education continues to make steady pro-

gress. The examinations now conducted by the Cambridge Syndicate have had a powerful effect in infusing a spirit of healthy emulation into our schools ; and the most recent institution, the Medical College for Chinese, is, I trust, destined to mark an era in the educational advancement of Hongkoug, and prove of incalculable benefit to the Chinese.

The financial position of the Colony is sound. At the end of August, we had a balance of nearly \$600,000; upwards of balf a million of dollars (\$521.447) here and upwards of \$90,000 (\$92,307), the equivalent of £15,000, at interest in London: these £15,000 being the unexpended balance o.

The Revenue for the year was estimated at \$1,291,270, and during the eight months ending August last the receipts amounted to \$977.402. The premiums on land sales were estimated at \$45,000, and during the first eight months of by the courtesy of the Secretary, Mr. J. H. the year we received no less than \$81,717. Of the Loan of £200,000, £15,000 remain un-

The Estimated Ordinary Expenditure was the year we expended \$988,337. The Extraordinary Expenditure was estimated at \$760,000, and up till the 31st August we

had expended \$496,385 The only exceptional increases on expenditure were the new launch Victoria, \$12,000, and the

Hunghom Market \$6,000. The amount provided for Defence Works was \$696,000, of which \$496,083 have been expended. It must be remembered that when the loan of £200,000 was voted the home Government had only asked for £56,000 for the Fortifications, afterwards increased to £116,000, leaving us short | bers of the V. R. C., all of whom had been invit-

by £60,000 of the sum required for other public ed works-vet additional loans and rates have been dispensed with, and the apponents of the Spirit farm, relying on the elasticity of the revenue from existing sources, have so far been justified, and it is hoped may be so in the future. In conclusion, honograble gentlemen, I wish to thank you before we separate for your valuable assistance in the logislative business brought

before you, and your unvarying courtesy and sircumstances, whatever differences of opinion may have sometimes arisen, on public questions. I have also to thank you for the supplies so liberally voted for the Public service, and for the sum you have this day allowed to be appropriated to supplement the very handsome publie subscription to the Jubilee Fund and enable the loyal people of the Colony to worthily calebrate the 50th anniversary of their beloved So-

I now declare the Session to be closed. (Ap

THE HONGKONG ORICKET OLUB.

The annual meeting of the members of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held on the 23rd September in the Pavilion. On the motion of Mr. LEACH, seconded by

Mr. Coxon, Mr. Darby took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, you have had the report for some time, and therefore I think there is only necessity for me to make very brief remarks. As you will see from the report, the Club has had a most victorious sesson. losing only one match. I think such a record is almost unprecedented in the annals of the Club. As regards the Lawn Tennis Championship, Mr. E. J. Coxon is at present in possession of the cup presented by Mr. Atwell Coxon, and if he wins it this year it becomes his own. I hope, and take it from him, for it was never the inten- Duck Hunz. Open to N.C.O.'s and Men of tion of the donor that it should remain in the family. As regards funds, we have a very nice balance in the Bank but not a bigger balance may have to expend a considerable sum on the board a sampan. turf, and from the present aspect of the turf

now propose that the report and statement of ac-The resolution was seconded by Mr. MACKIN coan and carried unanimously.

some such sum may shortly be required. I shall

The CHAIRMAN-The next business is to elect Officers for the ensuing year and also to appoint a Committee. Mr. Travers, I have no doubt, will be pleased to act as honorary secretary, which post Mr. Coxon has kindly filled during his absence, and Mr. Peter will undertake the duties of Mr. Foss.

Mr. LEACH-Unless any gentleman has any new names to bring forward, I propose that the Chairman and Mesers. Travers and Peter service evinced by the heads of departments and | be elected as President, Secretary, and Treasurer

Mr. MASTER seconded, and the resolution was carried nem. con. The CHAIRMAN-We have now to elect a Committee. There are six members on the Committee, of which Mr. Travers is a member ex officio, so that there are five members to be elected. The votes of members were theu taken with

the result that the following five gentlemen were

elected :-- Col. Anderson, Messrs. Graham, Wil-

son, Leach, and Coxon, The CHAIRMAN-I may mention that a telegram was received from Foochow a few days ago stating that a team there is ready to meet one from Hongkong.

Mr. MASTER proposed that, if possible without interfering with cricket two or more tennis | into which titles have drifted. The large increase in the total tonnage of ship- courts should be marked out in addition to those players many members had to wait a consider- to permit the assignee of each separate house to able time before being able to get a sett. He surrender his section or sections and to grant

Mr. STEWART seconded.

The CHAIRMAN-I think this is hardly the place to bring forward such a proposition. This meeting was called for the sole purpose of passing the report and accounts. I have not the slightest doubt that the new committee will endeavour to meet in every way the wishes of both lawn tennis and cricket players.

Some discussion then followed as to whether the proper time for bringing such a resolution forward was not at the general meeting, which

LIMITED.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Douglas Steamship Company. Limited, was held at the office of the General Managers, Messrs, Douglas Lapraik and Co., were present-Mr. C. D. Bottomley (Chairman.) Hon. P. Ryrie, Mr. B. Layton (Consulting Committee), Messrs. F. D. Goddard, H. A. Woolnough, E. Goorge, W. H. F. Darby. H. Crawford, J. S. Rosch, J. Goosmann, J. R.

Anton, de Westley Layton, and J. Grant (Secre-The SECRETARY read the notice convening

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission we will take the report as read. have very little to add to it. I may just men. tions will receive the most attentive considera- tion that since the 30th June the steamers have been doing very well. We are daily gard to the new steamer. The contract has been made and I hope she will be here about May next year. Before moving the adoption of the With regard to the defences of the Coleny, a report I shall be glad to answer any questions

any shareholder may wish to ask. Mr. ANTON drew attention to the item uf \$113,094, freights due "Oth June, and asked whether that amount had been collected. The CHAIRMAN-It has all been collected We always wait till the end of September before holding the meeting in order to get all the freights in up to the 30th June. In preparing the draft of this report I thought I had stated that; at any rate, it has all been collected. No further questions being asked the CHAIR. MAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts, which was seconded by Mr. Anton, and

carried ununimonely. On the motion of Mr. GEORGE, seconded by Mr. CRAWFORD, the Consulting Committee, con sisting of the Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. F. D. Sassoon (absent), Hon. A. P. MacEwen, and Mr. B. Layton, were re-elected. On the motion of the Hon. P. RYRIE, seconded

by Mr. Layton, the auditors, Mossrs, J. H. Cox and L. Hauschild, were re-elected. The CHAIRMAN said that was all the business. The dividend warrants would be sent out on Monday.

THE ROYAL ARTILLERY AQUATIC SPORTS.

On Saturday afternoon, the 24th September Stewart-Lockhart, the Aquatic Sports for the men of the Royal-Artillery-and-China_ Gun Lascars took place in the bathing establishment of the Victoria Recreation 31,245,434, and during the first eight months of Club. The sports commenced at 4. p.m. under the superintendence of the officers. Major Williams, R.A., officiated as Referee, while Major Blandy, R.A., Lieut. Auderson, R.A., and Lieut. Matthews, R.A., acted as Judges, with Lieut. Griffin, R.A., as Starter, and Lieut. Hawkins. R.A., as Secretary. The sports were favoured with fine weather, and the swimming bath was tastefully decorated with flags. The Tub Race and Duck Huut, as usual, caused great amusement, while several of the mon in costumes added to the general fun, Gunner Raymond, as a Zulu, earning the prize for the best get-up. There was

a very large attendance, including several mem-The following is the programme, with the

names of the prize winners :-SHORT RACE (2 lengths of bath) open to N.C.O.'s and Men of the Royal Artillery. 1st prise \$8; 2nd prize \$2. Bombardier Worsley.

Corporal Gannett HANDICAP RACE (8 lengths of bath) open to N.C.O.'s and Men of the Royal Artillery. 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2; 3rd prize \$1. Gunner Boot (2 secs) Corporal Gunnett (2 secs.)

Sergeant Warren (scratch)...... SHORT RACE (2 lengths) open to China Gun Lascars. 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2. Pte. Kaiser Singh

Pte. Sowan Singh. This race caused a good deal of merriment owing to the men's hair all coming down. LONG DIVE. Open to N.C.O.'s and Mon of the Royal Artillery. 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2.

Gunner Kirby Gunner Saunders..... TUE RACE. Open to N.C.O.'s and Men of the Royal Artillery. 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2 Bombr. Black..... Gunner Kirby

Long Race, round the red bucy. Open to N.C.O.'s and Men of the Royal Artillery. 1st prize \$5; 2nd prize \$8; 3rd prize \$1. Gunner Boot..... Corpl. Gunnett Bombr. Worsley Gunner Boot swam very well, and won after a

very good race. LONG RACE, round the red buoy. Open to China Gun Lascars. 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2. Pte. Thanda Singh

Pte. Jai Singh..... Seven men started, of whom only four came in the rest thinking better of it and getting

the Royal Artillery. The duck and two dollars to every man who cannot one. There were three ducks started, of cription in a proper manner. At any time we caught one, while the third found its. way on

> DUCK HUNT, for China Gun Lascars. One duck was started and eventually oxught by Pte. Jai Singh. DIVING FOR CUPS. Open to N.C.O.'s and Men. of the Royal Artillery. 1st prize \$4; 2nd

> Gunner Kirby Gunner McEvoy. Gunner Kirby brought up no less than seven winning easily.

CONSOLATION RACE, 1st prize \$3; 2nd prize \$2 ; 3rd prize \$1. Gunner Davenport Gunner Raymond Bombr. Inglis-

> THE LAND COMMISSION'S REPORT.

The sports were concluded about 6 p.m.

The report of the Land Commission was laid on the table of the Legislative Council on the 23rd Sept. It is dated 14th April, 1887, and is signed by the Chief Justice, Sir George Phillippo, Chairman; Hon. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Attorney-General; Hon. J. M. Price, Hon. A. P. Mac-Ewen, and Dr. Ho Kai, As might be expected from the nature of the subject dealt with, the report is of great length. The sarlier pages are occupied with a history of the land question in Hongkong, and an account of the confusion

"The Commissioners think the only remedy to the Crown. No difficulty can arise with regard to the collection of the Crown Rent, because each house is of very much greater annual value

than the Rent." The report then goes on to recommend the constitution of a Crown Land Board and the appointment of a sufficient staff. We make the following extracts from the

succeeding portion of the report:-The Commissioners are of opinion that it is desirable in the interests of the Colony that all the land granted upon lease (except for agricultural or pastoral purposes, or for garden lote). should be granted upon the same tenure. Before ended by Mr. Master withdrawing his proposi- very long it will be necessary that something should be done in reference to the Leases for 75 Bill are so strong that they must compel vote is asked has been for many months before majority of three, an unofficial member voting before, and the Bill was carried by a majority of three, an unofficial member voting before, and the Bill was carried by a majority of three, and the Bill was carried by a majority of three, and the Bill was carried by a majority of three as arose with the 75 years Leases granted in the early days of the Colony. Question No. 98.—Undoubtedly the site now

(Signed): GEO. DIGHT MORANT.

AND STRAITS SETTLEMENTS TO THE OFFI

SIR,-With reference to your Excellency's

letter No. 37G. of the 11th instant, and the

questions of the Land Commission to which my

attention is invited; I have the honour, in for-

warding a Copy of the Commanding Royal En-

Garrison "to places outside the city limits,"

the most central position for rapidly manning

the barbour forts, occupying the passes over the

hills at the back of the town and their approaches

A glance at the map will show that there is no

cessary is a deep sea frontage for our com-

munications with the harbour forts and in con-

Government Officials, Treasury, &c., &c., the

ing out right or left in the event of a rising of

the enormous and ever increasing Chanese

Mesanes, now used as a Hospital.

left for parade purposes.

main where they are.

In a sanitary point of view the present Bar-

be unremunerative and the troops have to re-

Taking all this into consideration, together

with the increased area to be allotted to provide

earlier part of this letter will, I feel sure,

prevent the War Department from entering into

allay, if possible, any disappointment in the matter.

I am as desirous as any member of the Legis

in the direction indicated, the Praya extended,

and tramway communication established from

Belcher's Point to Causeway Bay, and I hope

much further still, but all this can be done I

Your Excellency is aware how constantly I

have urged the War Office to contribute towards

as previously intimated verbally, that if a strong

case were made out to the Secretary of State for

the Colonies and he conferred with the War Of-

fice on the subject a satisfactory solution might

His Excellency the Honourable W. H. Marsh,

SUPREME COURT.

23rd September.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

HABEAS CORPUS-DETENTION OF SIX GIRLS

IN THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

Creasy Ewens, appeared in support of the fol-

IN THE MATTER OF CHAN MI YUNG, ALIAS

Ho Ayuk, To MI YUK, To Po Ngo, To

CHIN TO, TO HI CHOY, AND LO HO CHOY.

Take notice that this Honourable Court will

day, or so soon after as Counsel can be heard, by

Mr. Francis, one of Her Majesty Counsel, of

The learned counsel read the following affida-

1.-T arrived in Hongkong from Cauton on

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr.

C.M.G., Administering the Government,

(Signed), W. G. CAMERON,

Major-General, Commanding

in Chins and Straits Settlements

be arrived at .- I have, &c.,

Hongkong.

lowing motion :--

say as follows :--

tary Authorities handed over the North Barracks otherwise called Wei Yuk, the Chairman of the

submit without any removal of the Garrison.

ings required for a new Cantonment?

present cantonment is equally well adapted.

mander-in-Chief, &c., &c., &c.

OF HONGKONG.

Commodore.

READ QUARTERS,

Hongkong, 26th February, 1887.

will do nothing towards repairs, or in the im- should be passed limiting the inhabitants of a other. provements or sustenance of their dwellings; if house to what Health Officers consider a fitting has bought land on a 75 years Lease only, with (Despatch 26th November, 1880), complained to The Supreme Court House and Offices in course. the idea that the Crown would enforce its right Governor Hennessy that little appeared to have quence of the great value of the of re-entry at the end of 75 years and turn them out. Nor does jit appears why there should be only of the colonial Surgeon, on the colonial Surgeon, or the colonial Surgeon, on the colonial Surgeon, on the colonial Surgeon, or the colonial Surge any distinction on one side of the harbour to the dition of those parts of the Town of Victoria other; or on lands in the town or in the country. which are inhabited by Chinese, and that the rapid Hall and Murray Pier the Post Office. could I It may be urged that parties should be kept to growth of the population cannot fail to have removed to a much better position for it there, the strict performance of their engagements added to the evil of overcrowding. with the Crown, and that where land has risen

In modern days it has been strenuously urged that the landlord, even if a private individual, has has not yet come to an end, it is alleged people no right to this unearned increment. In case are already obliged to sleep in the streets. the Crown insists upon its rights, however, the Crown will, at the expiration of 75 years, take rents charged for European dwelling houses not only the uncarned increment, but the whole value of the improvements effected by the

in value the landlord should be entitled to the

The Crown in dealing with Crown Lands is not like some private persons selfishly socking to drive a hard bargain at the expense of an individual, but to dispose of its lands in the best, interests of the whole community. The Crown, as the Commissioners have on-

dearoured to point out in another part of this Report, has the entire monopoly of all ungranted land, and in the case of the settlers at Kowloon, and on the Hills, purchasers were, and are, compelled either to accept the terms that are offered by the Crown, or to go without the land.

rensons which decided Earl Grey to sanction the extension of the Town Lots from 75 to 999 years would apply equally to the extension of the Leasey of all other lots from 75 to 999 years, A new Registration . Ordinance is required ander which all new Titles should be registered. but the Registration Ordinance, 3 of 1844. should not be repealed, so that the old Titles may still be kept under that Ordinance until they are all got rid of and absorbed under the new

The Commissioners, however, have already suggested that some amendments to that Ordinance might be at once made so as to facilitate the bringing of Land under the new system. . Great objection has been taken to the provision in the Leases for the resumption of Land | European house, to live in Chinese houses.

for public purposes at a valuation to be made solely by the Surveyor-General, and the Commissioners think that in any new Leaves to be issued this provision might be omitted, and an Ordinance might be passed with similar provisions respecting the valuation of such lands as were prescribed in the Ordinance recently passed for the valuation of lands required for the Government. purpose of constructing Tramways. With regard to the form of Crown Lease t

covenants and provisious should be omitted, as authorities have in their possession :unnecessary, and other covenants might be replaced by the provisions of an Ordinance. A form of lease might be prepared for the new leases to be issued, leaving it to the authority who shall have the control of these matters to decide as to whether any special covenants are required under special direumstances.

might also be adopted which might be extensively used in all ordinary transactions. The Commissioners have attached to this their Report specimens of the various grants and licences issued by the Government or Govern-

ment Officers.

A short form of assignment, and of mortgage,

The Commissioners recommend that previsions should be made for the registration of all Powers of Attorney under which deeds relating to land are executed, and also for their production, and keeping copies in the Land Office, and for examined, or office copies, to be accepted in evidence; and that with respect to present Titles, which are affected by Powers of Attorney not being forthcoming, some legislation is desirable. The Commissioners are also strongly of opini-

Ordinance, that copies of all original documents

thority hereafter appointed. The restriction of Chinese Houses should in theopinion of the Commissioners be retained, and the present boundaries should be fixed by Ordinance, and power might be given to the Crown Land Board, or other Authority appointed, from time to time to alter such boundaries with the by several persons, that the city of Victoria is appoval of the Governor and with notice, previonsly to the restriction being removed, to the the recent purchases by the Military Anthorineighbouring lotholders so as to give them an ties has been to make things worse than they

pterests affected With regard to the assessment of rates and taxes, if the Crown Land Board is appointed the Commissioners consider that such Board should | their having dispossessed and turned out all these constitute the authority to which the rate-payers | people from the Queen's-road they have more than could appeal in the first instance, and this would ever divided the town into two complete parts. not be to them so grave a thing as to appear in Court. The rate-payer simply go before the ering that he was rated too high.

Rate Books, the Commissioners are of opinion | yet, with the present increasing population of that this could most properly be done in the Crown Land Office and under the authority of the Government would not only get the prethe Crown Land Board.

With reference to encouraging applications for the disposal of land outside Victoria the Commissioners think that, if their suggestions as to a Crown Land Board and District Deputy Com missioners of Lands are adopted, ample opportunity will be given to persons requiring land for any purposes to make their wants known to

particular casa as it may arise. It sometimes happens when lands are sold that squatters are living upon the ground sold, and one of the conditions of sale in such cases has been that the purchaser should compensate the squatters to the satisfaction of the Government before the Lease is issued. Cases have happened of the Lease to the purchaser, owing to his being tion of their land, yet the Commissioners think that for Crown rents would hardly be missed, and the unable to bring evidence that the squatter has the Naval and Military Authorities would not effect of improvements to Crown property will been properly compensated, or even compensated oppose themselves to the well being and the inat all, as the terms of compensation were not reduced to writing, and the squatters have removed to places where they cannot be found. This is an undoubted inconvenience to the purchaser which inconvenience would not arise if the squatters were first dealt with by Government and the land sold free of temporary occupants; but want of space, and value of land, that the space if the recommendation of the Commissioners with regard to temporary occupants are adopted will have to be relinquished in consequence of this inconvenience would scarcely arise in future. the pressure of population in the adjoining por-The conditions of sale generally issued by the | tions. Government state that the purchaser shall accept a Crown Lease in the usual from and execute a worse than useless unless the garrison is largely counterpart when called upon, and the Leaso increased. If the garrison is increased more would thereupon issue. In a great many cases, buildings will have to be erected, and the cost of however, the building covenant was disregarded removal will be very greatly, increased. If the and lands which ought to have been built upon best lands of the Colony are occupied for militahave remained unproductive. This led to the ry purposes the Colony is really contributing necessity of stopping the grant of the Lease enermously towards the expenses of the troops, until the building stipulations in the contract and can hardly be called upon, in justice, to have been performed to the satisfaction of the make any further military contribution. Surveyor-General. It is alleged by some persons | The Commissioners, while attaching the greatthat this provision has caused unnecessary in- est importance to the views of military experts, convenience to the purch sers, who, in many especially to those of so competent and liberal cases, have to borrow money in order to complete minded an officer as the present Major General their buildings, which they are unable to do Cameron, C.B., are not convinced of the necessity. 12th ultime on the Acting Governor's letter of until the Lease has been issued, no duplicate of cutting the City into two parts. They ven- the 11th of the same month No. 38G, I beg to contract for sale being handed to the purchaser, ture to think that other positions might be found, enclose a statement from the Officer Superintendand there being no provision for the registration which, with the aid of speedy communication ing Admiralty works whom I called upon to reply be moved on Friday, the 23rd of September inof dealings with the contract to safeguard the that might be obtained, would be equally advan- assar as he was able to the queries enumerated in purchaser or mortgagee. This the Commissioners tageous for all military purposes, and for the the Governor's letter, to which I beg to append think would be sufficiently obviated by the re- protection of the City. looking to its peculiar the following remarks for your consideration. gistration of the contract, and all dealings under it, configuration, and would be prepared to suggest Question No. 64.—The only obstruction that Council for To Ng, the lawful custodian or guarin the Land Office in the same manner as the ori- what they would consider to be suitable sites for the Naval Authorities offer to the wishes of the

so long ago as the year 18 9 Mr. Duddell called what portion of the 337 acres now in their occu- side of the Kowloon Peninsula, as at present the attention of the Land Committee sitting at pation should be retained by them, and what we are very much cramped for room and there that time to the remarkable hearding together restrictions it is necessary for them to impose is no depth of water alongside our pier, and

probably neglect to take out their Leases at all.

When the Lease is taken out the Register in

overgrowding.

Statements have recently been made that, i

uncarned increment, at least proportionably with | constituted Sanitary Board are adopted, lorgo | numbers of people will be rendered homeless. and even now, notwithstanding the cold season being at least three times as much as the rents obtained in any close suburb of London, with-

of which is in the hands of persons who have from the centre of the Town. bought for investment), or go without. The sale of land by Government has no effect in reducing rents, because as lands in the hands of private parties increase in value an additional to trial, at the Supreme Court. and preportional Crown rent is claimed by

proportion do rates, and the result of all these and if the public buildings to which they have combined causes is that houses for respectable referred are also removed there will be sufficient European families are difficult to obtain; rents svailable space to be filled up for some time to are constantly being forced up higher, and the come. Commissioners are informed that a large number of the poorer classes of the European community missioners , think that some relief. may are compelled, to their great detriment, owing obtained by baving free communication to the high rents asked for the very smallest Railway or Tramway with the villages and

The best means to adopt for the checking of be effected at a moderate cost. people can live, and the most obvious thing to do the making of Railways would have, but judging overcrewding is to enlarge the area in which . is, if possible, to get the Naval and Military Es. from other places it is reasonable to suppose that tablishments removed from the centre of the it would have the effect of removing many work-Town, or at all events to remove as far as they shops, and a large number of people, from the ceeding.

from the Naval and Military Anthorities which city. The Villages would be increased; a portion they have appended to this their report. From of the Junk trade would find it convenient to go

In Victoria Naval Yard Mt. Shadwell......6 3.33 Hourkong, Mt. Gough Out of Victoria; Kowloon At Stoneoutters' Island the use of a rifle ? range extending to 600 yards At Kowloon the use of a rifle range extending to 400 yards.....

say 22 acres or 958,320 square feet. And the Military Authorities have in their possession about 337 acres or 13,579,720 square feet. Some of this land is at Stonecutters Is-

land and some at the Peak. But in addition to this the Commissioners understand that there are tracts of land more especially at Kowloon and at the back of Kennedy upon them by the Military Authorities the Ge- public works which would be remunerative; they vernment is unable to dispose of, although otherwise readily saleable.

The amount occupied by the Naval and Milion it is desirable, under the new Registration tary Authorities, in the centre of the Town, and outting the Town in two, is: -By the Naval affecting Title should be recorded in the Land Authorities 45 acres—or at the rate of 43,560 square feet to the acre-206,910 square feet: and by the Military Authorities, 84 scres, or for the new Praya are claimed as follows :- By the Naval Authorities 24 acres or 108,900 square feet, and by the Military, 6 acres, or 261,360 their successors. square feet, making a grand total of 4,236,410 might well be put on the same footing and ought

"It has been pointed out to the Commissioners, really divided into two towns, and the effect of opportunity of objecting, if they considered their were before, both in regard to their having turned out a number of people having to seek for some other places in which to live and carry on their businesses, and that from the fact of tary Authorities is extremely valuable, and has principle, detrimental to the public interests. The land new occupied by the Naval and Mili-

Board himself and state his reasons for consid- for some time been steadily increasing in value, and, although it might not be advisable to put As to the preparation of the valuations and the whole of the land into the market at once, the colony, it would be rapidly absorbed, and mium for it, but a large Crown rout. In addition to this, as soon as the land covered with houses the Government would get

a large amount for rates. There are other measures which could be car ried out, in the event of the Government arranging for the Naval and Military Authorities to give up a sufficient quantity of the land they now the Government, and the Crown Land Board, if occupy, such as tramways, reclamation of the foreconstituted, will be in a position to make any shore, and other reclamations advantageous to suggestions that they think advisable in each be effected, all of which would tend to increase the general revenue of the Colony. If the Naval and Military Authorities even devised.

gave up only the land to the North of the Queen's Road it would be very much to the public ad-

the Naval and Military Authorities, of any por- two's time the amount that is at present received terests of the whole community if they were to a very large amount. thoroughly sati-fied that they were standing in the way of the bost interests of the colony.

Sooner or later, the Commissioners think that if the population continues to increase, it occupied by the Naval and Military Authorities

Now that the forts are completed they will be

ginal Lease, for a limited period, and the delivery the whole barrack accommodation, inclusive of Colonial Government is that of objecting to the Ho Ayak, To Mi Yak, To Po Ngo, To Chin To, to the purchaser of aduplicate of his contract; but officers quarters and bungalows for married offithere should be stringent limitations as to the time cors, and parade grounds, if there was the slight. Yard in Victoria, and this I believe would be Habeas Corpus ad subjiciendum to issue out of before you on a previous occasion under that during which the temporary registration should est chance of inducing the Military Authorities sanctioned under certain conditions, if the Mili-

Whether the Military Authorities can be in- and adjacent ground to the Admiralty; the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital, commandbe allowed, as otherwise some purchasers would to consider the advisability of removal. duced to leave the centre of the city, or to with- correspondence on this subject with your ing him to have before this Honourable Court respect of each particular piece of land should be draw from the northern side of Queen's road as predecessor is I believe in your office. far as they can possibly do so consistently with Question No. 96 .- I am of opinion that it OVERCEOWDING IN VICTORIA, ITS CAUSES AND keeping open their communication with the sea, would be advantageous to the public service, if the Commissioners consider that they should the Naval Yard establishment could be moved vits and correspondence:-With regard to overcrowding, it appears that at all events be called upon to determine as to from the present site in Victoria to the West I To Ng, of Canton, in the Empire of China,

missioners as to alleged unnecessary restrictions a considerable amount of extra expense is girls aged respectively. Chan Mi Yung 19 In 1874 the Colonial Surgeon called the serious imposed upon building at Kowloon, and also as entailed by having two establishments so far years; To Mi Yuk 16 years; To Po Ngo 12 which are greatly required, and as to both of Question No. 97.—The position most suitable years; and Lo Ho Choy 18 years; all unmarried. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Esq. attention of the Government to the evils of to building villa residences above Kennedy-road apart from one another.

themselves, have plenty of light, plenty of air, far outweigh the off chance of a stray shell, or

the sanitary measures proposed by the newly and free communication with the water. The cost of the new Gaol would be large, and toria is not altogether free from. it is considered that the value of the ground Gaol, and it is said that a new Gaol is not at reclamation could be available, viz., the bay in the employ of the Association known as the Rents in the colony are simply enormous, the present required, and that, if removed, the site North of the Kowloon Yard which if filled in Po Leang Kuk, without warrant or order of would be very much less than the cost of the new

The Commissioners are of opinion that this have been made, the increased Crown rents the necessary official dwelling houses to be built will be a question for a Crown Land Board, or and rates to be obtained have not been on the hills surrounding this bay, a very efficient preferred against me. other constituted body, to consider seriously and taken into consideration; and that it may establishment could be created, and being in a to report as to whother any steps can be taken not be advisable to spend all the money estiby the Government to afford relief, in this re- mated as the cost of the new Gaol for some extension. Still, as a measure of relief, its occupied by the Naval Establishment is one of since that date, I have been refused permission spect, by putting land in the market for sale at time to come, if sufficient space is reserved for The Government, as has been pointed out, has removal would open out a considerable space for the most valuable lots in the Colony, having one to do so. a monopoly of all the unseld land, and an in- building houses for some of the European front in the Queen's Road and the other on the tending purchaser must either comply with any population who are unable to find or afford the sea.

terms that the Government may demand, or expense of a house on the higher levels. parchase land already sold by Government, These reasons, apart from any other questions, The Commissioners feel sure that the same and in the hands of private parsons, (much make it advisable for the Gaol to be removed in my province-I have, &c., If the Magistracy is continued there, or course provision would have to be made for prisoners before trial, and for those who are committed Vice-Admiral B. Vesey Hamilton, C.B., Com-

The Commissioners are of opinion that if the Naval and Military Authorities can be prevailed In addition to this as rents increase, so, in like upon to remove from the centre of the Town.

If this is, however, impracticable, the Comoutlying districts, and by reclamations that may

It is impossible, at present, to say what effect can do so consistently with the interests of the central part of the City, and, with better protection, the better class of Chinese might be in-The Commissioners have received returns dinced to remove their family houses out of the were made with regard to the payment of fees, from the South, and pouring in reinforcements opinion that it is very desirable many of the these returns it would appear that the Naval to the outports, especially if some allowance A.R.P. and it would certainly make the Crown lands in If it is thought designable the construction of other possible locality outside the city limits, ...4.3.26 the neighbourhood of considerably increased value. a Railway as an experiment might be tried, but | which fulfils these conditions,—especially as seeing that if it fell into the hands of private regards the land front facing South the portion persons it must inevitably be a monopoly, the to be defended extending only from Stanley Gap ommissioners think if it were undertaken, (and on the one side to Belcher's Point on the other.

there are no engineering difficulties in its way), it would probably be better that it should be subsequently leased to a private Company; and nexion with the Arsenal, Laboratory, Comconstantly passing through this place it would ments, but hope all this will be readily underhave a considerable effect in introducing im. stood, and that I need say no more of our reproved-means of communication, and railways, quirements in a tactical or administrative sense. girls. into the Southern part of China, thus increasing the commercial importance of the Colony.

If the propositions for transferring Crown would be in a position, probably, to entertain space nearly all round it for defensive purposes, some such scheme; and with reclamations in the harbour, and removal of public buildings from the centre of the Town, the Government could provide a considerable amount of space. REDEMPTION OF CROWN RENTS.

racks are very satisfactory more particularly The whole of the purchase moneys received those on the sea shore, and occupying new ground from the sales of land are not new brought into has always proved most injurious to the health and the fixing of Boundary Marks or Stones, 3,059,040 square feet. In addition to which the the general Revenue of the Colony, but are the Commissioners think that this question can be left to the Crown Land Branch of the Naval and Placed to a separate account, on the ground that be left to the Crown Land Board; or other Au- Military Establishments, except what is wanted the present population ought not to be spending improvements which will be to the benefit of pansion to meet the requirements of a largely in-The Crown rents, the Commissioners think,

> to be expended in the first instance in the improvement of the Crown property, transferring only the annual profits received by the Crown Land Board, and not required for the purposes of improvement, to the general revenue. The expenses of reclamations, and expenses of many of the recommendations that are made

to Government are enormous, and the Commissioners think that in regard to reclamations, which have hitherto mostly been made at the expense of individuals, the Government, owing to not having the means to effect reclamations itself, has hitherto acted upon an entirely wrong If the moneys receivable for Crown rents the profit realized by the Public on any exchange

were put into the same fund as the purchase moneys, the Crown Land Board would have a Revenue which would enable them to make permanent improvements, many of which would yield a large annual Revenue to the Government, in the shape of assessments. In that case the Crown Land Board might

be empowered, with the consent of the Governor, subject to the instructions of the Secretary of State not only to spend their current Revenue, but to allow commutations for Crown rent, which, in the opinion of the Commissioners ought not to be less than 25 years' purchase, and also to borrow upon the security of Crown rents. It must be remambered that the Crown renta are the first charge upon all the lands, and is one of the safest modes of investment that can be

If the handing over the Crown rents to th Crown Land Board cannot be acceded to at present on account of the deficiency which would be Although the Commissioners are aware that created in the annual Revenue, yet the Revenue there is great objection to giving up, on the part of has been growing so largely that in a year

If at any time the Crown Rents should yield profit, the first thing which should be done. the Commissioners think, is to reduce the will be absolutely necessary with the increasing amounts that are paid for rates which are now, in the City, no less than 13 per cent. on the estimated annual value.

> THE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE NAVAL AND MILITARY ESTAB-LISHMENTS.

> The following documents are printed as appendices to the Land Commission's report :-COMMODORE. MORANT'S REMARKS RELATIVE TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS OF THE LAND COMMISSION (HONGKONG) ON THE BUB-JECT OF THE SALE AND TENURE OF THE LAND OF THE COLONY.

"VICTOR EMANUEL" Hongkong, 7th March, 1887 .-Sin,-In reply to your memorandum of the

kong, the said, etc. upon land that is required for building purposes. having already stores and the Torpedo establish. the 9th day of August last, and I brought with Great complaints have been made to the Com. ment at Kowloon, great inconvenience besides me from Canton the above named six Chinese

that the termination of their Leases was within to the Government of the excessive crowding of a medianestic descriptions alleged to the March Plant of the Research Plant of th Dear Sir,—Flease let me know what course to the Naval Lard, naving of the Caputa placed and the purpose of travelling more constituted by the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Mark less in the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Barracks, endangering the health of the louses erected within the neighbourhood of the Newlson Wharf Company. P. & O. I was faithfully said to the grant to the purpose of travelling more constitutions as a sent to the neighbourhood of the water alongside the restrictions as a faithfully said to the purpose of the purpos

absolutely essential, in the heart of the town, siderable sum would be required to purchase this placed in my custody and charge in Canton by COURT OF COURTS AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER liable to this objection in a minor degree, the steamers of the Peninsular & Oriental Co.'s line, and Lo Ho Chey at present detained in the Tung forts now being constructed are far off, its ad- and such passages were all of the first or second Wa Hospital, I hereby give you notice on bevantages of depth of water, shelter, and space, class.

so, damaging the buildings, stores, &c., and board of the said steamer Deccan with the six Ng, the custodian and guardian of the other which the present Naval establishment at Vic- girls intending to proceed with them in her to girls, that they will attend at the Tung Way Penang, and on the same day I and the said six Hospital at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and de-There is, however, an alternative not so ad- girls were forcibly removed from the said mand the release of these girls from their imvantageous in point of depth of water, but yet by steamer by one Ma Num, said to be a detective prisonment by you. and a sea wall built extending from the present any kind, and we were taken before the Acting To the Chairman of the Tung Wa Hospital. But if the Goal were removed, whatever build- outer wall of the Kowloon Naval Yard to the Registrar-General at his office. I was released ings are removed to its site would be removed from point opposite, with adjacent uncocupied land, and the said six girls were by the said Acting out the same accommodation and at least double the lower parts of the Town, and the Commissioners think that in the valuations which the War Department could be induced to allow detained in the Tung Wa Hospital.

7.-I was allowed to see and communicate with the said six girls once on the 13th August last, but, although I have repeatedly endesvoured to see and speak with the said girls 8.-I am advised and verily believe that the said six girls are illegally and improperly de-

tained in the Tung Wa Hospital, and I believe C. Ewens, Esq. Question No. 99 .- I believe the Hongkong that the said six girls are desirous of being re-Government would morethan cover the expenses. Question No. 100 .- This does not come withhalf for a Writ of Habeas Corpus, and I have therefore instructed my solicitor, Mr. Creasy Ewens, to apply for the said Writ on the behalf of each of them. THE MAJOR-GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHINA

To Wang Shi, of Canton, in the Empire of CER ADMINISTRATING THE GOVERNMENT China, widow, do solemnly and sincerely deelare and say as follows :--1.-I am the aterine mother of To Chin To. one of the girls above named, and am mother according to Chinese onstom of the above named

quested my sister-in-law To Ng, who was then in to know if the girls are detained by you, and if also being parted with. Last mail carried to know if the girls are detained by you, and if mother over her. Canton and about to proceed to Penang, to take so under what authority you are acting. Please gineers' Memorandum thereon, to state, as rethe two girls above mantioned, my daughters, send me an early reply. gards my own opinion, that the removal of the with her to Penang there to join a theatrical tronpe, and I have given her the care and custody would be a highly imprudent and dangerous proof the said girls. The said To Ng with the J. H. Stewart-Lookhart, Esq., Acting Registrartwo said girls and some others left Canton on or The first requisite, in the event of Hongkong being attacked, is that its small Garrison should

about the 9th August last. 3.—At the request of the said To Ng I came be placed as is fortunately the case at present in down from Canton on the 15th day of August last and I am informed by the said To Ng and others and verily believe that my said daughters are detained in the Tung Wa Hospital in this city without any warrant or authority of the law, and although I have applied there by my solicitor, Mr. Creasy Ewens, I have been refused permission to remove them from the said Hospipital, nor have I been permitted to see or con-

verse with them.

I Creasy Ewens, of Victoria in the colony of Hongkoug, a solicitor duly enrolled and practising in this Honourable Court, make oath and sav as follows :-1.—I was on or about the 16th day of August fore applying I wish to see the girls with Mr.

as might be necessary to obtain the release from fuse permission to see them. the Tung Wa Hospital of the above named six 2.-I at once put myself in communication | Wei Yuk, Esq., munity and as a place of refuge for them, the with the Acting Registrar-General and with

the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital and demanded their authority for the detention of the the Crown Land Board will be able to undertake is close to our Government Offices and business said six girls in the said Tung Wa Hospital, Ng; but I have been unable to obtain their release. | to allow you to see the girls. 3.—The copies of letters hereunto annexed marked 1 to 17 are true copies of the letters that have passed between meand the Acting Registrar-

General and between me and other persons therein appearing relative to the detention of the were travelling first or second class they did said six girls. 4.—I was informed by the Acting Registrar-General that he had not proceeded and was not proceeding under Ordinance 9 of 1887, and I am

and detained in the Tung Wa Hospital. 5.-I am instructed by the said To Ng to aptal on shore on the breaking up of the old hulk, ply on behalf of the said six girls to this Hononrable Court for a writ of Habess Corpus, and It appears to me also very questionable whe-

I have been refused access to the said girls to ther such removal, as suggested, would prove a take their instructions or ascertain their wishes. financial success for the colony, considering the costly character of the Barrack and other Military buildings and the large extent of ground they cover consequent on their detached state (for sanitary reasons) and the open spaces to be

laid and meanwhile the money expended would Hospital. If you are proceeding under Ordinance 9 1887. I am instructed to ask you to commit the he was not proceeding under that Ordinance.

case for trial before a Police Magistrate. If you do not intend to do so, please have them discharged. Yours faithfully,

for a corresponding increase of Garrison,-would of ground (a considerable sea frontage being in-H. Stewart-Lookhart, Esq., Acting Registrardispensable) covered the coast of all the build-General The higher considerations referred to in the Hongkong, 16th August, 1887.

Dear Sir .- I am instructed by Chan Mi Yung any scheme for the removal of the Garrison to know under what authority you are detaining from its present Cantonment, and I have only her in the Tung Wa Hospital as she wishes to touched upon the financial question in order to go to Singapore. Yours truly,

lature of seeing the town of Victoria improved J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Esq., Acting Registrar-General. Registrar General's Office.

Hongkong, August.16th 188 C. Ewens, Esq., Sir,-In reply to your letter of to-day respect

the expense of the Prays extension and I think, ing five girls, I beg to request that you will good enough to inform me who the person To Ang, for whom you are acting, is, and what right she has to the girls in question. I have the honour to be, Your obedient Servent,

J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, Acting Registrar-General. Hongkong, 17th August, 1887. Dear Sir,-Replying to your letter of yesterday I am instructed that To Aug is the custodian of the five girls referred to therein and is

the person from whose custody the girls were taken away. Yours faithfully. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Esq., Acting Registrar this time and no steps taken to bring them

Registrar General's Office.

Hongkong, 17th August, 1887.

C. Ewens, Esq., Sir,-In reply to your letter of yesterday, enquiring under what authority this Department is detaining in the Tung Wa Hospital one fore the court in order that their Lordship might Chan Mi-yang, I have to say that no such person as the above named is known to this De-

partment.

I have the honour to be, to be doing there? Your obedient Servant, J. H. STEWART-LOCKHAET, Acting Registrar-General Hongkong, 18th August, 1887. Dear Sir,- han Mi Yong was formerly years of ago.

C. EWENS. H. Stewart-Lockhart Esq., Acting Registrar-General.

Hongkong, 18th August, 1887. glad if you would send a written notice if you how disposed of. require her presence and that you would not see her unless accompanied by her colicitor. Yours truly,

C. EWENS.

Hongkong, 23rd August, 1887.

the removal of all public buildings, that are not built out and godowns erected, therefore a con-

Hougkong, 5th September, 1887. Dear Sir, -With reference to the five girls To Mr. Kaw Hong Take that he wished to with-5.—On the 10th day of August last I went on above named To Chin To, and on behalf of To

Hongkong, 5th September, 1887. Dear Sir,-I am instructed to give you notice on behalf of Chan Mi Yung, formerly known as Ho Yuk, who is now illegally detained by you, that I shall attend at the Tung Wa Hospital at 3 p.m. this afternoon and demand her release from imprisonment.

To the Chairman of the Tung Wa Hospital. Hongkong, 5th September, 1887.

Dear Sir,-In reply to your letters of this leased from such detention and imprisonment date. I beg to inform you that the girls in quesand of proceeding on their journey to Penang, tion are not imprisoned, but have been sent to and would, if I could communicate with them, the Hospital by the Acting Registrar General, the sweeping away of the German element from instruct and authorise me to apply on their be- without whose permission I cannot allow them | the Chinese service, make the following remarks:

be necessary to charge them with trespassing. Yours truly. WEI AYUK.

Chairman, Tung Wa Hospital.

to which I have had no reply I enclose copies of To Po Ngo and entitled to all the rights of a letters to the Chairman of Po Leung Kuk and the Chairman of the Tung Wa Hospital and of

Yours truly. U. EWENS. (Jeneral. 8th September, 1887.

Dear Sir.—Referring to my last letter to you dated the 5th inst. I have to inform you that on Monday next legal proceedings will be commenced unless the girls are previously released. C. EWENS.

. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Esq., Acting Registrar. 14th September, 1887. Dear Mr. Wei Yuk.—I am going to apply to the Court for a Habeas Corpus in the case of the fact, a very great less to China. These gentlemon girls imprisoned in the Tung Wa Hospital; be-

Yours truly. C. Ewens.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1887. Dear Mr. Ewens,-I have received your letter.

WEI AYUK. Chairman, Tung Wa Hospital. The learned Counsel said that as the girls not come under the Emigration Ordinance. Their Lordships would see the facts were

Chairman of the Tung Wah Hospital.

His Lordship-Involuntarily P

ed to their friends.

hearing of the case.

Mr. Francis-No one knows. There is

TRADE briefly these, that these six girls of ages ranging from 19 to 11 came down bere in the present population ought not to be spending the Praya extension offers ample means of the Colony except in permanent improvements which will be to the benefit of passes bring straw-braid, wool, horsehair, bristles, girls are illegally and improperly imprisoned related to some of them, and she was going passes bring straw-braid, wool, horsehair, bristles, girls are illegally and improperly imprisoned related to some of them, and she was going passes bring straw-braid, wool, horsehair, bristles, girls are illegally and improperly imprisoned related to some of them. with them to Penang, where they were feathers, etc., to our market are coming home to being sent by their mothers to their people to them sooner than we expected. The Lonilon join a theatrical troupe. They were travelling market for strawbraid is excessively overstocked. first and second class, and were on board A not inconsiderable portion of the stock is out the steamer, when they were removed by one of condition and worthless, and we fear that the of the detectives of the Po Leung Kuk and losses on the stuff that has been tumpered with, taken before the Acting Registrer-General. mixed and injured, will fall on many foreign He did not think there was any doubt that, ex. traders. The price of camels' wool in London Dear Sir.—I am instructed by To Aug to cept under Ordinance 9 of 1887, the Registrar- bas also fallen, and the article is in disfavour, as apply to you with reference to five girls named General had absolutely no power whatever to the dirt and sandy grit injures the looms and To Mi Yak, To Po Ngo, To Chin To, To Hi detain any woman or girls or interfere with machinery. For feathers from China there was Choy, and Lo Ho Choy respectively who are, I them in any way whatever, and in two or three at one time a steady demand for the European two years from the time the foundations were understand, detained by you in the Tung Wa personal interviews Mr. Ewens had with the continent, but the cargo now sent is so much of his letters—the Acting Registrar-General said all sorts of gross adulterations employed to Mr. Ewens made an application anthorised by the Ordinance that if he was proceeding under that Ordinance he would remit the case to the Magistrate. The learned counsel read the section of the Ordinance requiring the Registrar-General, when he had reason to believe a girl was being improperly dealt with, to summon before him the custodian of such girl. He said nothing in the nature of a summons had been issued in this case, the detective simply removed the people from the steamer. Undoubtedly the girls would come within the Ordinance if they were intended to be disposed of as exporters here and in Shanghai having received prostitutes. That was a matter of evidence, such deleful accounts from London are alarmed. and they had no knowledge of what information was in the possession of the Registror-General. He then read another section of the Ordinance imposing a penalty on persons not appearing and producing the child when summoned, but said there was no power given to the Registrar-General to Tls. 21 were readily paid when the river opened issue a warrant for the arrest and detention of is now going begging at Tls. 15. 4.000 bales the persons. The learned counsel then read the that have just arrived have been pronounced sections governing the procedure to be followed atterly worthless. in the inquiry before the Registrar-General, including one to the effect that the person interested has established the right to refuse, after purmight be assisted by comesel or solicitor. In chase, all strawbraid that upon examination is

this case they had been refused any information found to be of inferior quality. Under this aras to whether there had been an inquiry, in fact rangement the marchant has the privilege of they had been told the proceedings were not examining the bundles brought into his godown under the Ordinance. Then powers were given and of refusing the whole, or any part, that to the Registrar-General to make certain orders proves unsatisfactory. Hitherto strawbraid has on being satisfied of certain facts, but in this been bought on sample bales submitted, and only case they had no knowledge of any such orders damaged could be rejected, while inferior and having been made. Neither the Registrar mixed qualities were forced upon the purchaser. General nor the Directors of the Tung Wah | The purchaser's only option was to return the Hospital had attempted to justify themselves by whole purcel, but the native trader at that stage

that section. Then there was a section providing of the transaction probably know that the cargo that the person, accused might ask to have had been already sold to home merchants. So the case remitted to a Police Magistrate for in- that the Tientsin buyer could not throw up the vestigation. That application was made in this contract without getting into trouble with his Owing perhaps to the articles which have been translated from this jurnal to the Shih pao for fore they were entitled to a writ of habeas some weeks past imperative instructions have before a Magistrate. He submitted there-

communicating with the mother or custodian, or of produce must be sent down, that everything from the peasants. It may be hoped, therefore. that some improvement in quality may be observed in future arrivals. It appears to be difwool is ruining their trade; that freight and charges on it are thrown away; and that the foreign merchant discounts it all in buying. The able one for some combined action among foreign merchants to put an end to the frandulent customs that have so long prevailed in cord that a step in the right direction has been

asking the question, but women who have been but originating in Mongolia or in the cases of sent in there under similar proceedings as in the the great desert. The value of this material in

KAW HONG TAKE V. PATTERSON.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

With reference to this case Mr. Caldwell, who appeared for the plaintiff, said his Lordship had been pleased to appoint Tuesday next for the hearing of this case. Within five minutes of his coming into Court he had been instructed by

draw from this case. It appeared that it had been urged upon his client by his friends that to bring a civil action for \$1,000 damages against a man in the position of defendant would sayour very much of persecution. Under these circumstances he would ask his Lorship's permission to withdraw from the case, subject to proper arrangement as to costs. Mr. Webber, who appeared for the defendant, said that a barrister had been briefed for the defence and every arrangement made in the case,

as to which the felt every confidence in meeting. However, if the costs incurred up to the present were paid by the plaintiff he was quite willing to consent to the case being withdrawn. His Lordship asked Mr. Caldwell how about he costs of the case. Mr. Caldwell said his client was willing to pay

the costs upon taxation. His Lordship said that was most reasonable, and under these circumstances he would note the withdrawal of the case." The action was accordingly withdrawn.

THE GERMAN OFFICERS IN THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT EMPLOY.

Our Tientsin contemporary, in an article on -Soon after the cessation of the "Reprisals" Should Chan Mi Yung or Wong Shi endea. the Chinese began to cool towards their new your to make their way into the Hospital it may teachers, and for one reason or another their ranks began to be thinned. The navel officers were largely wasded out when Captain Sebelin left the service; Port Arthur has been almost entirely denuded of the Germans and occupied by French, with only one German left as a sample of his race. The camps and schools Sir,—Referring to my pravious letters to you round Tientsin have been stripped by successive years' agreements expire this autuma are about to take their leave of us. Besides the military. officers, engineers, and skilled manufacturers are nunpowder, whose elaborate factory has been in process of construction at the Eastern Arsenal for the last two years or so, and is yet a good way off completion; and Mr. Samwer, the civil engineer, who was in charge of the dock works at Port Arthur until ousted by the French. leaves by the German mail of next wook. This Tentonic exodus makes a great change in our small community. The language of Schiller and Heine, which has been made familiar to our ears in our streets, our clubs, and hotel salouns, will now to some extent give place to the lively sal-

lies of the Gaul, and sanerkingst will have to make way for houlille-a-baise at our feasts-The Tientsin correspondent of the Daily News, writing on the same subject, says :- All the German officers in Chinese service, save Major Pauli, are about to return home. Their departure will be, if the Chinese could but understand the are all skilled soldiers, and if their advice had been taken there would now be some hundreds of last instructed by one To Ng to take such steps | Sin. Is there any objection to this or do you re- trained native cadets to serve in and to gradually modern warfare. That but little improvement in affairs has been made is not their fault most certainly, as all counsel, all endeavour to teach and train, all effort to induce the officials to countenance reform, met with both passive and active resistance. The time of the four officers Messrs. Hecht. Glascknap, Goltz, and Lehman You can of course make any application to the has, I am sorry to say, been lest here. Lieut. and given back into the custody of the said To Court you may think fit, but I have no authority. Goltz. however, having acquired—considering the time occupied in his studies—a very remark. able knowledge of the Chinese language, has joined the German Legation in Poking as interpreter.

THE STRAW BRAID AND WOOL

The Tientsin paper writes :- The ovil doing increase weight, that the Tientsin produce is out of favour. But the beginnings of reaction have come. In Tientsin and on the way there are 10,000 bales of strawbraid. The demand for export has ceased, and as the home stocks are so heavy there may be no demand here at any price until the spring comes. By that time the Chineso dealers will have realized how foolish it is to spoil their produce by mixing, by sulphurous fames, damp, etc., as when the winter is over the stock of braid kept in Tigutsin in godowns will be in a sorry plight, if indeed of any value at all. So with camels and sheep's wool. The foreign and in future it may be hoped that supervision will be so strict when purchases are made that the dealers will have to discontinue their fraudulent practices, or give up the business.

One cargo of braid similar to that for which

We learn that one firm at least in Tientsin case and no answer whatever was given. The constituents. children had been detained in custody all

with their solicitor, who consequently had been unable to ascertain their own personal wishes. The application was made on behalf of the girls, ficult for the Chinese wind to understand that who, he submitted, were entitled to be brought be-30 or 40 per cent. of sand and water in their examine them as to whether they were rightly detained or not. Their Lordships might consider it sufficient to address the writ to the present time of overstocked markets is a favour-The Chief Justice-What are they supposed the produce markets, and it is satisfactory to rematron there to take charge of them, and no suitable accommodation. And I am informed there are women in the Tung Wah Hospital now taken by the firm above referred to. For some years there has been exported from who have been there for years, women thirty Tientsin a beautiful kind of goat's wool, soft and silky, sometimes called in the trade 's Cashmere,"

present case and have remained there ever since. the London market has fluctuated a good deal His Lordship—I understood they were restor- from various causes, and it has not been obtainable in sufficiently large or regular quantities to establish a steady market for itself. The earlier shipments realized 1s. Ed. o ls. Ed. pre 1b., and Mr. Francis-But I am assured on excellent at times much lower prices have been accepted. information-you cannot take it as evidenceepinster, do solemaly and sincerely delare and told her were wished to see here. I do not know West Unant to the Tang latterly, however, this fine fibre has suffered ought to be made as to what is done in the Tang Latterly, however, this fine fibre has suffered ought to be made as to what is done in the Tang Latterly, however, this fine fibre has suffered ought to be made as to what is done in the Tang Latterly, however, this fine fibre has suffered ought to be made as to what is done in the Tang Latterly, however, this fine fibre has suffered to see here. I do not know that the delare and told her were wished to see here. I do not know that the delare and told her were wished to see here. told her you wished to see her. I do not know Wah Hospital with the number of girls who are severely from the adulteration to which other whether this is the second whether this is the second with the number of girls who are whether this is the case or not, but I should be taken there, as to how they are looked after and wools have been subjected, recent parcels being The fibre is injured by this treatment and mill man of the Tung Wah Hospital, and an order machinery ruined in attempting to work it up, made that notice should be given to the Registrar- and it is not therefore wonderful to hear that General. Wednesday next was fixed for the the price has fallen to 9d. a 10d., and difficult

of the Chinese. And this has gone on increasing to the present